



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/237,194	01/26/1999	STEPHEN JAMES BROWN	HERO113397 / 014030.0110N	9517
60683 7590 12/19/2006 HEALTH HERO NETWORK, INC. 2000 SEAPORT BLVD. SUITE 400 REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063			EXAMINER MORGAN, ROBERT W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3626	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/19/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/237,194

Applicant(s)

BROWN, STEPHEN JAMES

Examiner

Robert W. Morgan

Art Unit

3626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-138 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-138 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. This communication is response to the amendment filed 9/21/06. Claims 34-138 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 34-41, 45-50, 52, 54-59, 61-63, 65, 66, 69-75, 77-84, 88-93, 95, 97-102, 104-106, 108, 109 and 112-118 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,803,625 to Fu et al. and U.S. Patent No. 4,838,275 to Lee in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,390,238 to Kirk et al., for the same reasons given in the previous Office Action (dated 6/19/06). Further reasons appear below.

4. Claim 42, 44, 85 and 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fu, Lee, and Kirk as applied to claims 34 and 77 above, and further in view of Beckers, Pat. No. 5,019,974, for the same reasons given in the previous Office Action (dated 6/19/06). Further reasons appear below.

5. Claims 51, 53, 60, 64, 67 94, 96, 103, 107, 110, and 111 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fu, Lee, and Kirk as applied to claims 34 and 77 above, and further in view of Fujimoto, Pat. No. 5,339,821, for the same reasons given in the previous Office Action (dated 6/19/06). Further reasons appear below.

Art Unit: 3626

6. Claims 43 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fu, Lee, and Kirk as applied to claims 34 and 77 above, and further in view of Examiner's use of Official Notice, for the same reasons given in the previous Office Action (dated 6/19/06). Further reasons appear below.

7. Claims 76 and 119-138 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fu, Lee and Kirk as applied to claims 40 above, and further in view of Examiner's use of Official Notice, for the same reasons given in the previous Office Action (dated 6/19/06). Further reasons appear below.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 9/21/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments will be addressed herein below in the order in which they appear in the response filed 9/21/06.

At pages 2-5 of the 9/21/06 response, Applicant directs the Examiner to a Declaration filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 along with evidence demonstrating Applicant had the concept of the subject invention prior to the effective filing date of the Kirk et al. (June 15, 1992) and was diligent from a date prior to the filing date until the date that Applicant filed the subject patent application. The Examiner respectfully submits that the documents submitted by the Applicant indicate that conception of the invention took prior to June 15, 1992. However, Applicant has failed to provide specific evidence that he worked diligently from prior to June 15, 1992 until an actual reduction to practice date, or that he worked diligently prior to June 15, 1992 (constructive reduction to practice for the Kirk et al. references) until November 17, 1992.

MPEP § 2138.06 states the following:

Art Unit: 3626

An applicant must account for the entire period during which diligence is required. *Gould v. Schawlow*, 363 F.2d 908, 919, 150 USPQ 634, 643 (CCPA 1966) (Merely stating that there were no weeks or months that the invention was not worked on is not enough.); *In re Harry*, 333 F.2d 920, 923, 142 USPQ 164, 166 (CCPA 1964) (statement that the subject matter "was diligently reduced to practice" is not a showing but a mere pleading). A 2-day period lacking activity has been held to be fatal. *In re Mulder*, 716 F.2d 1542, 1545, 219 USPQ 189, 193 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (37 CFR 1.131 issue); *Fitzgerald v. Arbib*, 268 F.2d 763, 766, 122 USPQ 530, 532 (CCPA 1959) (Less than 1 month of inactivity during critical period. Efforts to exploit an invention commercially do not constitute diligence in reducing it to practice. An actual reduction to practice in the case of a design for a three-dimensional article requires that it should be embodied in some structure other than a mere drawing.); *Kendall v. Searles*, 173 F.2d 986, 993, 81 USPQ 363, 369 (CCPA 1949) (*Diligence requires that applicants must be specific as to dates and facts.*) (*Emphasis added*)

The declaration includes Exhibits A through AB that relate to the claim elements of the pending claims as stated in section 21 of the Declaration by the Applicant, thereby alleging diligence in reduction to practice of the instant invention. However, the evidence submitted by the Applicant does not account for any of the time lapses indicated by the date of the Exhibits to the date of the Kirk et al. (filed June 15, 1992). As such, it is submitted that the Applicant has failed to provide evidence to fully account for the time period during which due diligence must be established and "a 2-day period lacking activity has been held to be fatal" for proving due diligence.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37


Art Unit: 3626

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert W. Morgan whose telephone number is (571) 272-6773. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (571) 272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Robert Morgan
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3626